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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/662,811	09/16/2003	Hendrik Gerlach	1454.1501	1111
21171 7590 11/23/2007 STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005			EXAMINER CHAI, LONGBIT	
			ART UNIT 2131	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 11/23/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/662,811	Applicant(s) GERLACH ET AL.	
	Examiner Longbit Chai	Art Unit 2131	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 October 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/5/2007 has been entered.

Response to Argument

2. As per claim 1, Applicant asserts that Examiner's submission of "Black teaches the situation, specified as the security event exceeding the respective pre-determined threshold, is qualified as "the security status" is incorrect because the "security status of an appliance" is the status of the security of the appliance – the situations in Black, on the other hand, have been summarized, which takes time and since it takes time to summarize the situations in Black, the situations had to have happened in the past, and are no longer representative of the status of the system. Examiner respectfully disagrees because Applicant's argument has no merit since according to the modern technology of processor speed, what exactly is the timing limitation / threshold in terms of interval that constitutes "current" security status has not been disclosed in the instant specification. Also see the 112-2nd rejection on the following Office action as set forth below.

3. Furthermore, Applicant asserts Black neither teaches, discloses, nor suggests "an external display to display the security status of the appliance directly on an outside of the

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appliance" or "an internal display to display the security status of the appliance within an inside of the appliance. Examiner respectfully disagrees because Black teaches (a) the situation, specified as the security event exceeding the respective pre-determined threshold, is qualified as "the security status" as claimed, (b) Examiner notes "displayed the situations to an administrator", as taught by Black, must use an external display so that somehow in any way, it can be presented to the administrator (i.e., data in computer memory is not tangible to a human) and as such Black does teach an external display to display the security status of the appliance directly on an outside of the appliance and (c) Black teaches "the internal event log identified as a format of (SRC, TARGET, CLASS) is considered as an internal display" – This is also consistent with the specification of the instant application specification that states the internal display may be a simple mechanism such as the setting of a flag (SPEC: Para [0024] last two sentences) and as such Black does teach an internal display to display the security status of the appliance within the inside of the appliance. Therefore, Applicant's arguments are respectfully traversed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 1, 13 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 13 and 25 are indefinite because the claim language "current security status" is not clear regarding what exactly constitutes the timing limitation / threshold in terms of interval

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that is qualified as "current" security status (and what is NOT qualified as a current security status) – this has not been disclosed in the instant specification in order to particularly distinct the invention subject matter over the prior-arts.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 102 that forms the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1. Claims 1 – 4, 6 – 9, 11 – 16, 18 – 21, 23 – 27 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Black et al. (U.S. Patent 2003/0041264).

As per claim 1, 13 and 25, Black teaches a system comprising:

an appliance-internal unit to detect a current security status of an appliance (Black: Para [0006] Line 1 – 3, Para [0036] and Para [0025]);

an external display to display the current security status of the appliance directly on the outside of the appliance (Black: Para [0050] Line 14 – 16: (a) the situation, specified as the security event exceeding the respective pre-determined threshold, is qualified as "the security status" as claimed, (b) Examiner notes "displayed the situations to an administrator", as taught by Black, must use an external display so that somehow in any way, it can be presented to the administrator (i.e., data in computer memory is not tangible to a human) and as such Black does

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teach an external display to display the security status of the appliance directly on an outside of the appliance);

an internal display to display the current security status of the appliance within the inside of the appliance (Black: Para [0010] Line 1 – 6: the internal event log identified as a format of (SRC, TARGET, CLASS) is considered as an internal display – This is also consistent with the specification of the instant application specification that states “the internal display” may be a simple mechanism such as the setting of a flag (SPEC: Para [0024] last two sentences)); and

a transmission unit to transmit security status data between other appliances in a network of appliances such that the current security status data can be subjected to data processing in the network of appliances (Black: Para [0035] – [0036] and Para [0050]: each event of a computer is transmitted over the network and correlated / grouped as a network event).

As per claim 2 and 14, Black teaches the appliances are automation appliances (Black: Para [0006] Line 7 – 10, Para [0009] and Para [0010]: automation user programs is provided for the internal display as a common format event logs to prevent merely dumping the system events to an administrator to sort through and make sense of the data, as taught by Black).

As per claim 3, 15 and 26, Black teaches the external display visually displays the security status (Black: Para [0050] Line 14 – 16: the security status is displayer to a user or administrator).

As per claim 4, 16 and 27, Black teaches an access unit to run automation user programs on the internal display (Black: Para [0006] Line 7 – 10, Para [0010], Para [0009] and Para [0036]: (a) a computer access unit is provided for automation user programs for the

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internal display as a common format event logs to prevent merely dumping the system events to an administrator to sort through and make sense of the data, as taught by Black (b) the internal event log identified as a format of (SRC, TARGET, CLASS) is considered as an internal display – This is also consistent with the specification of the instant application specification that states “the internal display” may be a simple mechanism such as the setting of a flag (SPEC: Para [0024] last two sentences)

As per claim 6 and 18, Black teaches a joint display to display an overall security status of a plurality of appliances, respectively having their internal displays linked (Black: Figure 7 & 8, Para [0035] and [0050] / [0048] : the collection and correlation of event logs from each computers within the network as a group network event is considered as a joint display).

As per claim 7 and 19, Black teaches the joint display is an external visual display (Black: Para [0050] Line 14 – 16: the correlated security status is displayed to a user or administrator).

As per claim 8 and 20, Black teaches there are a plurality of joint displays, each displaying the status of a different plurality of appliances (Black: Para [0036], Figure 4B / 4C, Figure 7 & 8, Para [0035] and Para [0050]), and the overall security status is passed on from the joint display to a higher-level joint display that displays an overall security status of the appliances communicating with the joint displays (Black: e.g., Figure 8, Table 1 and Para [0050]: Figure 8 / Element 802 is one type of joint display that is further passed on to a higher-level joint display of Figure 8 / Element 800).

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As per claim 9 and 21, Black teaches there are a plurality of joint displays, each displaying the status of a different plurality of appliances (Black: Para [0036], Figure 4B / 4C, Figure 7 & 8, Para [0035] and Para [0050]), and a server is provided for administration and display of the respective status of the joint displays appliances (Black: Para [0025], Para [0035] and Figure 8 / Element 800).

As per claim 11 and 23, Black teaches a portion of the appliances have internal security mechanisms (Black: Para [0010], Para [0035] and Para [0050] & Figure 5: the internal event log identified as a format of (SRC, TARGET, CLASS) is considered as an internal security mechanisms – This is also consistent with the specification of the instant application specification that states “the internal display” may be a simple mechanism such as the setting of a flag (SPEC: Para [0024] last two sentences)), a portion of the appliances are without internal security mechanisms (Black: Para [0006] Line 7 – 10: “without internal security mechanisms” is considered as the method that merely dumps system events to an administrator to sort through and make sense of the data), and the system integrates appliances without internal security mechanisms with appliances that have internal security mechanisms (Black: Para [0010] and Para [0006] Line 7 – 10: a system can be managed with either automatically or manually as needed – This also appears in the application specification).

As per claim 12 and 24, Black teaches the transmission unit transmits current security status via an Intranet and/or the Internet (Black: Para [0035]).

As per claim 29, Black teaches the internal display functions as an input for other devices within the appliance (Black: Para [0010], Para [0035] and Para [0050]: i.e., a common

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format for a classified event group associated with a particular network situation that can be communicated within the network).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 5, 17 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Black et al. (U.S. Patent 2003/0041264), in view of Grainger (U.S. Patent 6,910,135).

As per claim 5, 17 and 28, Black teaches collecting the event logs with a common format stored internally in the computer memory as an internal-information base, accessing to the current security status being provided by the internal display and communicating each of computer events over the TCP/IP network that are correlated / grouped as a network event (Black: Para [0010], Para [0035] – [0036], Page 2 / Left Column / Line 1 – 5 and [0050] / [0048]).

However, Black does not disclose expressly an internal-information base to provide access to the security status from the network of appliances via standard protocols.

Grainger teaches an internal-information base to provide access to the security status from the network of appliances via standard protocols (Grainger: Column 3 Line 18 – 23 / Line 32 – 36: SNMP / MIB (Management Information base) is used by an event correlation engine as

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a common information base and standard protocol for managing network events such as security status).

Accordingly, Black in view of Grainger teaches an internal-information base to provide access to the security status from the network of appliances via standard protocols, access to the current security status being provided by the internal display (See the reasons set forth above).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Grainger within the system of Black because (a) Black teaches detecting and presenting the network security and intrusion information relating to a series of security violations to a user by collecting the event logs with a common format stored internally in the computer memory as an internal-information base, accessing to the security status being provided by the internal display and communicating each of computer events over the TCP/IP network that are correlated / grouped as a network event (Black: Para [0010], Para [0035] – [0036], Page 2 / Left Column / Line 1 – 5 and [0050] / [0048] (Black: Para [0002]) and (b) Grainger teaches providing an effective use of SNMP / MIB (Management Information base) by an event correlation engine as a common information base and standard protocol for managing network events such as security status (Grainger: Column 3 Line 18 – 23 / Line 32 – 36).

3. Claims 10 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Black et al. (U.S. Patent 2003/0041264), in view of Douglas (U.S. Patent 2004/0049693).

As per claim 10 and 22, Black does not disclose expressly the security status of the internal display can be simulated such that the internal display is active even without the appliance-internal unit detecting the current security status.

Douglas teaches the security status of the internal display can be simulated such that the internal display is active even without the appliance-internal unit detecting the security status (Douglas : Para [0089]: for debugging and testing purpose – This also appears in the application specification).

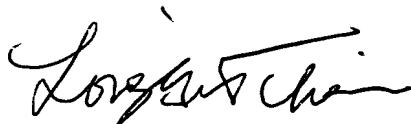
It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Douglas within the system of Black because (a) Black teaches detecting and presenting the network security and intrusion information relating to a series of security violations to a user (Black: Para [0002]) and (b) Douglas teaches host-based intrusion detection system (HIDS) that monitors, simulates, tests and debugs the system logs for evidence of malicious or suspicious application activity and detects attacks targeted at the host system on which it is installed and monitors output to the system and audit logs (Douglas : Abstract and Para [0089]).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Longbit Chai whose telephone number is 571-272-3788. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz R. Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Longbit Chai
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2131
10/22/2007